Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

Salmon and Trout.[1]— This is one of the most desirable of recent publications on angling. The three sections of which it is composed are unequal in quantity and to some extent in quality yet they effectually cover their field. The first section, of 149 pages, by Dean Sage, on the Atlantic Salmon, is a most excellent piece of work, however regarded. The dearest interests of the angler, habits, localities, tackle, capture, and the like, are admirably and thoroughly treated. Discussing but a single species, future changes of names and position can have little effect on this essay. Literary merit, accuracy, and inclusiveness combine to establish it as one of the most permanent contributions on the subject.

The second section, of about 40 pages, on "The Pacific Salmons," by Messrs. Townsend and Smith, is filled with information about species not as well known as *Salmo salar* and which apparently do not lend themselves as readily to the purposes of the sportsman.

The third section occupies more than 200 pages and, treating of "The Trouts of America," it deals with a considerable number of species. The author, Wm. C. Harris, is one of the first of living authorities on his topics and, so far as the matters of most importance to anglers are concerned, there is probably no one more competent. A veteran and an enthusiast he has the experiences of many years from which to draw material that is always full of life and entertainment. On whatever most directly pertains to angling and tackle or its manufacture his work has its greatest value. The technical science, in which he appears to take some pride, introduces elements that make for less of permanence. For the classification and nomenclature, and in great part knowledge of distribution, are only approximations, unsatisfactory and more or less discredited by the authorities, liable to be modified or superseded in the near future.

Opportunities for improvement on revision are not lacking. The following from page 194 will serve as an instance: "In 1486, six years before the discovery of America, Wynken De Worde, among the first of English printers, published that famous work, 'The Booke of St. Albans' on 'the dyssporte of fysshyng' by Dame Juliana Berners or Barnes, the Prioress of Sopwell in England; it was the first book on fish and fishing printed in the English language." This would make it appear that the Book of St. Albans and the Treatise of Fishing were identical; but in fact the "Treatyse of Fysshynge wyth an Angle," the first book on the subject of fishing printed in England, was published by Wynkyn De Worde in 1496, and the first edition of the Book of St. Albans, that of 1486, did not contain it. The cornea of the eye of fishes is said to be flat on page 307, the teeth on the head of the vomer of chars are badly treated on pages 274 and 288, the explanation of color on page 304 is not well done, and various items have been overlooked in proofreading.

---

[1] Dean Sage, Townsend, C. H., Smith, H. M. and Harris, William C. New York: Macmillan, 1902. 8vo. pp. 417, illustrated.

The book is beautifully illustrated and printed; it contains a large proportion of all that is known of American Salmon and Trout and concerning their capture.

Boulenger on the Relationship of the Flounders. — In the *Annals and Magazine of Natural History* (Vol. X, pp. 295–304) Dr. Boulenger has a very suggestive discussion of the origin of the group of flounders or flatfishes.

He rejects entirely the idea that these fishes are related to the codfishes, with which group they agree in the absence of fin spines and in little else.

They are obviously more nearly related to the ordinary spinous-rayed fishes, showing a general similarity in the structure of skeleton, especially the shoulder girdle, the pelvis, and the tail. The increased number of ventral rays and other characters show real affinity with Zeus. Dr. Boulenger regards the John Dory, *Zeus faber*, as the nearest living ally of the flounders. In the Eocene rocks is found a genus, Amphistium, the type of a family Amphistiidæ, regarded by Boulenger as clearly intermediate between Zeus and the rhomboid flounders, which are the earliest known representatives of that group. The three families, Zeidæ, Amphistiidæ, and Pleuronectidæ, are joined together by Boulenger to form a new division of spiny-rayed fishes, which he calls Zeorhombi. The Amphistiidæ differ from the flounders almost solely in the symmetrical head and eyes, and have essentially the structure of the flounder larva, so far as the skeleton is concerned.

Incidentally Dr. Boulenger discusses the suggestion of the present writer that the notable fact of the smaller number of vertebræ in tropical fishes is due to the specialization of natural selection, a process less rapid in the cold regions, the fresh waters and the open seas. Dr. Boulenger claims that the form with twenty-four vertebræ, characteristic of the tropics, are at the same time the more primitive, and that the prevalence of this number of vertebræ in so many different groups simply indicates their common descent from